

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace drawing sheets 1-8, encompassing FIGS. 1-3, 4A-4B, 5A-5C, 6A-6C, and 7A-7B, with the replacement sheets in the section titled "Replacement Drawing Sheets" that follows the Remarks in this paper. These amendments are explained in the "Remarks" section.

REMARKS

Claims 14, 23, 25-26, and 41-49 have been currently amended. Withdrawn claims 3-13, 16-22, 28-40, and 50-65 have been canceled without prejudice and may be pursued by Applicant in one or more future divisional applications claiming priority to this application. Claims 1, 2, 14-15, 23-27, and 41-49 thus remain pending in the application and have been allowed.

Correction of Formal Matters

The Quayle Action indicates that the application is in condition for allowance except for certain formal matters. Applicant has attempted herein to address all of these formal matters to permit the application to proceed to issuance. The issues raised in the Quayle Action concerning the specification, claims, and drawings have all been addressed. Comments regarding certain of the amendments follow.

Amendments to the Specification. Applicant has exercised considerable effort to proofread the specification carefully and to correct a number of typographical and other errors that had not previously been discovered. Included among the current amendments to the specification are corrections addressing all of the specific points raised in the Quayle Action. No new matter has been introduced by way of the current amendments to the specification.

Regarding the amendment at page 14, lines 18-21, this text has been deleted for the following reasons: (1) the reference to element 46c is imprecise; (2) surface 47 need not be described since its function in the ferrule is clear from the drawings; (3) aperture 56 is on the mirror, not the ferrule; (4) the first sentence is not required to describe the ferrule function; and (5) the second sentence is out of context, relating to the mirror 48 and not the ferrule 46.

Regarding the amendment at page 17, lines 21-25, this text has been deleted because it somehow became garbled during drafting, and correcting it could risk introducing new matter into the application.

Regarding the amendment at page 20, lines 10-11, this sentence has been deleted because it is incorrect and because it is inconsistent with another portion of the specification (see page 24, line 1) and claim 28.

Amendments to the Claims. Applicant has made all of the corrections to the claims suggested by the Examiner in the Quayle Action. Further, claims 3-13, 16-22, 28-40, and 50-65 have been canceled without prejudice, as noted above.

Amendments to the Drawings. The drawings have been amended to correct a number of incorrect and missing reference numerals. The current amendments address all of the issues raised in the Quayle Action regarding reference numerals “42” (FIG. 2), “53” (FIG. 3), “48h” (FIG. 3), and “48r” and “48s” (FIGS. 4B and 7A-7B). No new matter has been introduced by way of the current amendments to the drawings. These amendments render the drawings consistent with the specification as currently amended.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that no further impediments exist to the issuance of this application. However, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any questions or comments arise.

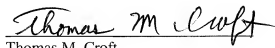
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP
ATTN: Patent Group
777 6th Street NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20001

Tel: (720) 566-4044
Fax: (202) 842-7899

Respectfully submitted,
COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP

By:


Thomas M. Croft
Reg. No. 44,051

REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEETS